

3735 Squirewood Drive
Clemmons, NC 27012

January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to let you know that I am in favor of the Microsoft settlement. My opinion is Microsoft is not a monopoly, and does its best to serve its customers. Furthermore, the government should limit their involvement in businesses, as it is the people who have the choice, as consumers, as to who they want to support.

The strength and success of any company is held in the hands of its customers. Our free market economy allows companies to prosper by competing for customer loyalty. Microsoft has proven time and again with its products and services that it has a far-reaching customer base. The choice to buy or not to buy is with the people. Too much government intervention should be avoided, and this settlement has already taken over three years!

Additionally, I believe that proceeding with this settlement is in the best interest of business, the economy, and customers. By holding up the settlement any further, the American economy does not have the chance to work its way out of the current recession. The settlement was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator, and the Company has agreed to terms that extend well beyond the products and procedures that were actually at issue in the suit. The American people think it is time to move on.

Keeping Microsoft tied up in court is a bad move for everyone involved. Please make this issue the highest priority and let the government settlement stand. I am thankful that I live in a country where my voice and my opinion is important in discerning what is right for the greater good of the people.

Sincerely,



Jeff Ray